## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 SP-02 USIA-06 AID-05 NSC-05 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-05 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 AF-10 ARA-10 NEA-10 L-03 H-01 INT-05 GSA-02 IO-13 PA-01 PRS-01 /147 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ISM:WLENAHAN
APPROVED BY EB:JLKATZ
EB/ICD:EAWENDT
TREASURY:PBELFORD
COMMERCE:WSUGG
EB/ICD/ISM:ROGDEN

-----102083 100107Z /63

P 092339Z JAN 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EMIN, PORG, ITC

SUBJECT: EIGHTS SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TIN COUNCIL

REF: (A) LONDON 20768

1. THE INTERNATIONAL TIN COUNCIL (ITC) WILL HOLD ITS EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION IN LONDON JANUARY 16-20. THE PRINCIPAL ISSUE AT THAT MEETING WILL BE A PRODUCER PROPOSAL TO INCREASE THE ITC'S FLOOR PRICE FROM MALAYSIAN DOLS. 1,200 TO MALAYSIAN DOLS 1,400 AND THE CEILING PRICE FROM MALAYSIAN DOLS 1,500 TO MALAYSIAN DOLS. 1,700. CONFIDENTIAL

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2. THE PRICE ISSUE WAS DISCUSSED EXTENSIVELY AT THE DECEMBER MEETING OF THE ITC'S ECONOMIC AND PRICE REVIEW PANEL AND, AS NOTED IN REFTE, PRINCIPAL CONSUMERS CONCLUDED THAT ANY INCREASE IN THE ITC PRICE RANGE IN JANUARY WOULD BE UNWARRANTED. AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THAT CONCLUSION, THREE DELEGATIONS--THE U.S. (LENAHAN AND THIGPEN), FRG

(FEILING, BOENKE AND KNOTTE OF THE ECONOMICS MINISTRY), AND JAPAN (SANO, OF THE JAPANESE EMBASSY IN LONDON, AND TAKAGI OF THE JAPAN METALS CENTRE IN LONDON) -- ALL AGREED THAT THEY WOULD RECOMMEND TO THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS THAT THEY OPPOSE ANY PRICE INCREASE IN JANUARY INCLUDING, IF

NECESSARY, VOTING AGAINST ANY RESOLUTIONS FOR PRICE INCREASES. FURTHER, THE THREE DELEGATIONS AGREED THAT IF, AS A RESULT OF INTERNAL CONSULTATIONS, ANY OF THESE GOVERNMENTS TOOK POSITIONS DIFFERENT FROM THAT TAKEN BY THEIR DELEGATION AT THE EPRP MEETING, THEY WOULD REQUEST CONSULTATIONS WITH THE OTHER TWO GOVERNMENTS PRIOR TO THE IANLIARY 16 MEETING

3. EMBASSIES BONN AND TOKYO ARE REQUESTED TO INFORM APPROPRIATE HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS THAT THE USG CONTINUES TO OPPOSE ANY ITC PRICE RANGE INCREASE AND, IN COOPERATION WITH THE FRG AND JAPAN, IS PREPARED TO VOTE AGAINST ANY RESOLUTIONS FOR PRICE RANGE INCREASES.

POSTS ALSO ARE REQUESTED TO SEEK CLARIFICATION OF HOST GOVERNMENT POSITIONS.

4. AS EMBASSY LONDON IS AWARE, THE U.K. DELEGATION TO THE EPRP ALSO WAS INCLINED TO OPPOSE ANY PRICE INCREASE BUT, BECAUSE OF INTERNAL INTERAGENCY CONSIDERATIONS, DID NOT CONFIDENTIAL

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COMMIT TO VOTE AGAINST ANY PRICE INCREASE IN JANUARY. THE POST IS REQUESTED TO CONTACT THE U.K. DELEGATION TO ASCERTAIN ITS POSITION FOR THE JANUARY MEETING AND, IF APPROPRIATE, TO ENCOURAGE THE U.K. TO JOIN THE U.S. AND LIKE-MINDED CONSUMERS IN OPPOSING ANY PRICE INCREASE. THE EMBASSY MAY ALSO WISH TO CONSULT WITH MINISTER SANO AT THE JAPANESE EMBASSY TO DETERMINE HIS VIEWS CONCERNING THE UPCOMING MEETING.

- 5. POSTS MAY ADVISE HOST GOVERNMENTS THAT THE U.S. DELE-GATION WILL ARRIVE IN LONDON SUNDAY, JANUARY 15 AND IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE EIGHTH SESSION WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS THAT AFTERNOON OR EVENING. IF A MEETING IS DESIRED, GEORGE THIGPEN (EMBASSY LONDON) OR WALTER LENAHAN (AVERAD HOTEL) SHOULD BE CONTACTED.
- 6. PLEASE ADVISE. VANCE

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Subject: EIGHTS SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TIN COUNCIL

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